



the present invention be limited not by the specific disclosure herein, but only by the appended claims.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A camera comprising:
 - a photographic film cartridge forming a dark room for accommodating a film, and a camera body having a receptacle for removably and snugly accepting said cartridge therein,
 - wherein said cartridge is provided with an opening which remains closed when said cartridge is removed from said receptacle, and is openable for exposing said film to a light control device to form an image on said film when said cartridge is accepted in said receptacle.
2. The camera of claim 1 wherein said cartridge is provided with a door selectively movable between a closed position to close said opening and an open position to open said opening.
3. The camera of claim 2 wherein said cartridge further comprises a spring forcing said door toward said closed position.
4. The camera of claim 3 further comprising an activator for moving said door from said closed position to said open position against said spring.
5. The camera of claim 4 wherein said activator is adapted to move said door to its open position upon insertion of said cartridge into said camera body.
6. The camera of claim 4 wherein said activator is adapted to move said door to its open position upon a manual operation after said cartridge is accepted in said camera body.
7. The camera of claim 5 wherein said manual operation is an actuation on a shutter of said camera for taking a frame of photo.
8. The camera of claim 7 wherein said shutter is formed by said door.
9. The camera of claim 7 wherein said shutter is provided on said camera body and a button is provided for said actuation of said shutter.
10. The camera of claim 9 wherein an interlock mechanism is provided between said activator for moving said door and said button for actuating said shutter.
11. The camera of claim 2 wherein said door is adapted to pivotably move between said closed position and said open position.
12. The camera of claim 2 wherein said door is adapted to move linearly between said closed position and said open position.

13. The camera of claim 4 wherein said activator is a protrusion provided on an internal wall of said receptacle of said camera body for pushing said door to its open position against said spring when said cartridge is being inserted into said receptacle.
- 5 14. The camera of claim 2 wherein said cartridge is further provided with a safety latch movably between a first position in which said door is prevented from moving and a second position in which said door is allowed to move by said activator.
- 10 15. The camera of claim 14 wherein said safety latch remains in said first position when said cartridge is not accepted in said receptacle of said camera body.
16. The camera of claim 15 wherein a spring is provided to force said safety latch to remain in said first position.
17. The camera of claim 16 wherein an unlocking element is provided to move said safety latch from said first position to said second position.
- 15 18. The camera of claim 17 wherein said unlocking element is adapted to operate upon insertion of said cartridge into said receptacle of said camera body.
19. The camera of claim 18 wherein said unlocking element is a protrusion provided on an inner wall of said receptacle of said camera body.
20. The camera of claim 19 wherein said unlocking element is adapted to keep
20 said safety latch at said second position when said cartridge remains inside said receptacle.
21. The camera of claim 14 wherein said safety latch comprises a latch arm which rests in a notch on said door when said safety latch is in said first position.
22. The camera of claim 1 wherein said cartridge comprises a first spool region, a
25 second spool region and a bridging region between said two spool regions, and said opening is provided on said bridging region.
23. The camera of claim 22 wherein said film is initially accommodated in said first spool region and is exposed through said opening when being advanced through said bridging region to said second spool region.
- 30 24. The camera of claim 23 wherein said second spool region is provided with a film canister for accepting said film advanced from said first region.
25. The camera of claim 24 wherein said cartridge has a bulging contour in shape

at said second spool region, which is obviously larger than that at said first spool region.

26. The camera of claim 23 wherein said first spool region is provided with a film canister for containing said film before being advanced to said second region.

5 27. The camera of claim 26 wherein said cartridge further comprises means for rewinding said film back to said canister in said first spool region after said film is all exposed.

28. The camera of claim 24 wherein said cartridge includes a first part having said first spool region and a second part having said second spool region, and
10 wherein said two parts are detachably attached together to form said cartridge.

29. The camera of claim 1 wherein said light control device is a lens.

30. The camera of claim 29 wherein said lens is provided on said camera body.

31. The camera of claim 29 wherein said lens is provided on said cartridge and covers on said opening, and a shutter is provided on said camera body.

15 32. The camera of claim 1 further comprising a locking mechanism for keeping said cartridge inside said receptacle of said camera body after said cartridge is accepted in said receptacle.

33. The camera of claim 32 wherein said locking mechanism comprises a resilient tab provided on said camera body which engages with a recess formed on said
20 cartridge when said cartridge is fully accepted in said receptacle.

34. The camera of claim 33 further comprises a releasing element on said camera body for releasing said resilient tab from said recess on said cartridge and for removing said cartridge from said receptacle.

25 35. A film cartridge detachably attachable to a camera body having a light control device, comprising:

a light sealed housing forming a dark room for accommodating a film, wherein said housing is provided with an opening which remains closed with a door when said cartridge is detached from said camera body and is openable for exposing said film to said light control device when said cartridge is
30 attached to said camera body.

36. The film cartridge of claim 35 further comprising a locking element remaining on a locking position for keeping said door closed when said cartridge is

detached from said camera body.

37. The film cartridge of claim 36 further comprising an unlocking mechanism to for removing said locking element from said locking position upon attachment of said cartridge to said camera body.

5 38. The film cartridge of claim 37 further comprises an activation mechanism to open said door.

39. The film cartridge of claim 38 wherein said activation mechanism is designed such that said door is opened upon attachment of said cartridge to said camera body.

10 40. The film cartridge of claim 38 wherein said activation mechanism is designed such that said door is opened upon activation of a shutter for taking a photo.

41. The film cartridge of claim 40 wherein said shutter is formed by said door.

42. The film cartridge of claim 40 further comprising an interlock element to implement said activation of said door by a button for activating said shutter.

15 43. A camera body, comprising:

a light control device for communicating an image on a film,

a receptacle for removably and snugly accepting a film cartridge therein, said film cartridge having a housing forming a dark room for accommodating said film therein but with an opening which remains closed by a door when said cartridge is outside said receptacle;

20 said camera body comprises an activation mechanism for opening said door to expose a frame of said film to said light control device through said opening when said cartridge is accepted in said receptacle.

25 44. The camera body of claim 43 wherein said activation mechanism is designed such that said door is opened upon insertion of said cartridge into said receptacle.

45. The camera body of claim 44 wherein said activation mechanism is designed such that said door is opened each time a shutter activated.

46. The camera body of claim 45 wherein said shutter is formed by said door.

30 47. The camera body of claim 45 further comprises a button for activating said shutter.

48. The camera body of claim 47 further comprising an mechanism for

interlocking between said door and button such that said door is opened upon pushing said button to activate said shutter.

49. A camera comprising:

a camera body having a light control device for communicating an
5 image to a film, and

a photographic film cartridge detachably attachable to said camera
body, wherein said cartridge comprises a light sealed housing forming a dark
room for accommodating said film but with an opening sized for exposing
only one single frame of said film and positioned for exposing said single
10 frame to said light control device when said cartridge is attached to said
camera body.

50. A film cartridge, comprising a light sealed housing forming a dark room for
accommodating a film therein but with an opening sized for exposing only a
single frame of said film, said film being contained within a light tight
15 container.

51. A camera comprising:

a photographic film cartridge forming a dark room for accommodating
a film, and a camera body having a receptacle for removably and snugly
accepting said cartridge therein,

20 wherein said cartridge is provided with an opening and a door
selectively movable between a first position to close said opening and a second
position to open said opening, and wherein said film is, upon exposure, within
a light tight container that is within said cartridge.

52. The camera of claim 51 further comprises a biasing spring on said cartridge to
25 force said door toward said first position.

53. The camera of claim 52 further comprises an activation mechanism for moving
said door from said first position to said second position upon insertion of said
cartridge into said camera body.

54. The camera of claim 53 further comprises a locking mechanism for preventing
30 said door from being moved to said second position when said cartridge is
outside said camera body.

55. The camera of claim 52 wherein said activation mechanism comprises an

protrusion provided on an inner wall of said receptacle which moves said door against said biasing spring to said second position.

56. The camera of claim 54 wherein said locking mechanism comprises a safety latch pivotably movable between a locking position and an unlocking position.

5 57. The camera of claim 56 wherein said locking mechanism further comprises a biasing spring forcing said safety latch toward said locking position.

58. The camera of claim 57 wherein said safety latch comprises a latch arm which engages with a notch provided on said door when said safety latch is at said locking position.

10 59. The camera of claim 58 said cartridge is provided with a guide groove extending along a direction in which said cartridge is inserted into said receptacle, and said receptacle of said camera body is provided with a corresponding elongate web for longitudinally inserting said guide groove when said cartridge is being inserted into said receptacle.

15 60. The camera of claim 59 wherein said safety latch comprising an latch release lever protruding into said guide groove when said safety latch is at said locking position.

61. The camera of claim 60 wherein said elongate web is adapted to push said latch release lever away from said guide groove upon entering said groove, whereby moving said safety latch to said unlocking position and keeping it at said unlocking position by occupying said groove until said cartridge is removed from said receptacle.

20 62. A film cartridge for use with a camera comprising a light tight film container within an outer cartridge, said outer cartridge being either selectively light tight or being light tight but for an opening sufficient only to expose a single frame, and film within said film cartridge.

25 63. The film cartridge of claim 62 wherein further comprising a door that is arranged to close and lock when said film cartridge is removed from said camera.

30 64. The film cartridge of claim 63 wherein said door is biased to a closed position.

65. The film cartridge of claim 62 wherein a majority of said film is in said cartridge but not within said container.

66. The film cartridge of claim 65 wherein a majority of said film is in said container within said cartridge.
67. A method of loading film comprising placing unexposed film and a light tight container into a cartridge, and placing the cartridge into a camera.
- 5 68. The method of claim 67 wherein said cartridge is light tight.
69. The method of claim 67 wherein said cartridge is light tight but for an opening sufficient for a single frame exposure.
70. The method of claim 67 wherein a majority of said film is within said light tight container.
- 10 71. The method of claim 67 wherein a majority of said film is outside of said light tight container but within said cartridge.
72. A camera comprising:
- a photographic film cartridge forming a dark room for accommodating a film, and a camera body having a receptacle for removably and snugly accepting said cartridge therein,
- 15 wherein said cartridge further comprises a container inside said dark room for collecting exposed films, said container being removable from said cartridge.
73. The camera of claim 72 wherein said cartridge comprises an unexposed spooling region for accommodating unused portion of the film and a collection spooling region for accommodating exposed portion of the film.
- 20 74. The camera of claim 73 wherein said container rests in said collection spooling region.
75. The camera of claim 74 wherein said container is a film canister.
- 25 76. The camera of claim 75 wherein said camera body has an opening at its bottom that is wider at one side than at the other such that the wider side accommodates a portion of the cartridge containing said container.
77. The camera of claim 73 wherein a stop is provided in said unexposed spooling region for securing a free end of said film thereon.
- 30 78. The camera of claim 73 wherein a hole is provided at a bottom of said cartridge at the position of said unexposed spooling region for accepting a spooling driver inserted therethrough for loading said film.

79. The camera of claim 73 wherein said cartridge further comprises an opening with a door selectively movable between an open position and a closed position.
- 5 80. The camera of claim 79 wherein said door remains at its closed position when said cartridge is outside the camera body.
81. The camera of claim 80 wherein said door is automatically moved to its open position upon insertion of said cartridge into said camera body.
82. The camera of claim 73 wherein said film is loaded from a film spindle into said unexposed spooling region.
- 10 83. The camera of claim 73 wherein said film is preloaded from said canister to said unexposed spooling region before use.
84. A cartridge detachably attachable to a camera body for accommodating a film therein, comprising a body part comprising an unexposed spooling region and a collection region, and a cover part for engaging with said body part to form a light sealed dark room, wherein said body part has a hole at a bottom of said unexposed spooling region for receiving a spooling driver to spool film in said unexposed region.
- 15 85. The cartridge of claim 84 wherein said spooling driver is provided with longitudinal slots for film to be held therein.
- 20 86. The cartridge of claim 85 wherein said slots is open at a free end of said driver.
87. The cartridge of claim 84 wherein said body part is provided with a stop inside said unexposed spooling region for securing a free end of said film thereon.
88. The cartridge of claim 84 further comprises a collection container placed in said collection region for collecting exposed film therein.
- 25 89. The cartridge of claim 88 wherein said collection container is a 135m standard canister.
90. A spooling driver for loading film in a cartridge as in claim 1, wherein said driver has at least one longitudinal slot for accepting said film therein so as to form a film roll by rotating said driver.
- 30 91. The spool driver of claim 90 wherein said slot is open at an free end of said driver.
92. A camera comprising:

a photographic film cartridge forming a dark room for accommodating a film, said cartridge comprising a collection spool for collecting exposed frames of said film, and

5 a camera body having a receptacle for removably and snugly accepting said cartridge therein, said camera body comprising a control means to drive said collection spool to collect said exposed frames upon activation of a shutter of said camera,

10 wherein said control means comprises a driving shaft with a protrusion on its peripheral surface which is adapted to laterally abut a block inside a receptacle formed on said collection spool for accepting said driving shaft, and said driving shaft is biased toward said receptacle by a spring.

93. The camera of claim 92 wherein said control means further comprises a sleeve into which said driving shaft retreats when it is pushed against said biasing spring.

15 94. The camera of claim 93 wherein said control means further comprises a toothed wheel which is interlocked with an activation mechanism that triggers said shutter of the camera.

95. The camera of claim 94 wherein said sleeve is fixed to said toothed wheel.

96. A camera comprising:

20 a photographic film cartridge forming a dark room for accommodating a film, said cartridge comprising a sprocket for advancing said film upon exposure, and

25 a camera body having a receptacle for removably and snugly accepting said cartridge therein, said camera body comprising a control means for driving said sprocket upon actuation of a shutter of said camera,

wherein said sprocket comprises a sleeve with inner teeth, while said control means comprises a toothed shaft for engaging with said inner teeth of said sleeve.

30 97. The camera of claim 96 wherein said toothed shaft of said control means has a tapered end for facilitating insertion of said toothed shaft into said toothed sleeve of said sprocket.

98. The camera of claim 96 wherein said control means is interlocked with an

activation mechanism that triggers said shutter of the camera.

99. A film cartridge comprising a light sealed housing forming a dark room for accommodating a film therein, wherein said cartridge comprises a container inside said dark room for collecting exposed films, said container being
5 removable from said cartridge.

100. The cartridge of claim 99, wherein said container is removable from said cartridge without destroying said cartridge.

101. The cartridge of claim 99 comprising two parts which are detachably connected to form said cartridge whereby said container is removable from
10 said cartridge by detaching said two parts from each other.

102. The cartridge of claim 99 further comprising an opening closable by a door to form said dark room and openable to expose a frame of said film while taking a photograph.

103. In combination, a camera body and a photographic film cartridge detachably
15 attachable to the camera body, the combination comprising: the camera body including a light control device for communicating an image to a film in the cartridge in the camera body, and camera operating elements for permitting communication of an image through the light control device to the film; the cartridge comprising an unexposed film spool region, a second spool region
20 spaced from the unexposed film spool region and a bridging portion between the unexposed film spool region and the second spool region such that the film can be advanced from the unexposed film spool region past the bridging portion to the second spool region, and when the cartridge is in the camera body, the bridging portion is positioned with respect to a lens in the camera
25 body so that an image can be captured on film then at the bridging portion; film operating elements in the camera body and cooperating film operating elements on the cartridge for being operated together for advancing the film in the cartridge from the unexposed film spool region to the second spool region past the bridging portion; the bridging portion being so shaped with respect to the cartridge and the camera body as to define a dark room for film
30 passing between the unexposed film spool region and the second spool region; a light transmission opening in the cartridge at the bridging portion,

the opening being positioned such that when the cartridge is in engagement with the camera body, and with the opening open, film at the bridging portion is presented for exposure by light passing the lens and the opening in the film cartridge; a door on the film cartridge, the door is shaped to prevent light from entering through the opening into the darkroom in the cartridge; the door being selectively moveable between a closed position where the door blocks the opening in the cartridge and an open position wherein the door has been moved to open the opening in the cartridge and permit exposure of film at the bridging region in the darkroom.

104. The combination of claim 103, wherein the door is adapted to remain in the closed position until the cartridge is fully engaged in the camera body.

105. The combination of claim 104, further comprising cooperating devices on the camera body and at the door on the cartridge for moving the door to the open position upon the cartridge being fully engaged with the camera body.

106. The combination of claim 105, wherein when the cartridge and the camera body are fully engaged, the cartridge being shaped to define a region which is light sealed except for light entering the camera body and into the cartridge by the lens for exposing film in the bridging portion of the cartridge.

107. The combination of claim 105, further comprising an actuator connected with the door for moving the door between the open and closed positions.

108. The combination of claim 107, further comprising a safety latch on the cartridge for the door, and the actuator cooperating with the safety latch for releasing the safety latch for enabling movement of the door from the closed position to the open position.

109. The combination of claim 108, further comprising a spring connected with the door for moving the door from the closed position to the open position upon release of the latch.

110. The combination of claim 107, further comprising the door being pivotally supported to the cartridge to pivot between the open and closed positions.

111. The combination of claim 107, wherein the door is supported to the

cartridge to translate along the cartridge between the closed and open positions.

112. The combination of claim 108, further comprising the safety latch for the door being operable to free the door to move from the open to the closed position thereof.

113. The combination of claim 112, further comprising a spring for moving the door from the open to the closed position thereof.

114. The combination of claim 112, wherein the actuator is so connected to the cartridge and the camera body as to be operable to move the door between the positions thereof upon engagement and upon removal of the cartridge and the camera body.

115. The combination of claim 107, wherein the actuator is user operable and is operable upon full engagement of the cartridge with the camera body.

116. The combination of claim 107, wherein the camera body includes a shutter at the lens and includes an operator for operating the shutter.

117. The combination of claim 116, wherein the shutter operator is connected with the actuator such that the actuator is operated for moving the door from the closed to the open position upon operation of the shutter.

118. The combination of claim 103, further comprising a film or canister for the film and located at the unexposed film spool region of the cartridge, such that during advancement of the film past the bridging portion, the film is transferred from the canister to the second spool region.

119. The combination of claim 103, further comprising a canister for the film and located at the second spool region of the cartridge, such that during advancement of the film for exposure past the bridging portion, the film is transferred from the second spool region to the canister.

120. The combination of claim 103, further comprising a shutter on the camera body for selectively blocking and opening the light control device and an operator on the camera body connected with the shutter and operable for opening the light control device.

121. The combination of claim 103, wherein the film cartridge comprises a housing in which the film is disposed and the housing being shaped to seal

the film from exposure to light except through the opening closeable by the door.

122. The combination of claim 121, further comprising a narrow slot between the unexposed spool region and the bridging portion through which the film can pass and the slot being narrowed to substantially seal the unexposed film spool region from light.

123. The combination of claim 103, wherein the camera body has an enclosed chamber therein and the cartridge is shaped to be received in and is receivable in the chamber in the camera body to define the combination, and wherein the door is operable to the open position only with the cartridge fully installed in the camera body.

124. A photographic film cartridge for detachable attachment to a camera body, the film cartridge comprising: an unexposed film spool region, a second spool region spaced from the unexposed film spool region and a bridging portion between the unexposed film spool region and the second spool region such that the film can be advanced from the unexposed film spool region past the bridging portion to the second spool region; the bridging portion being so shaped with respect to the cartridge and the camera body as to define a dark room for film passing between the unexposed film spool region and the second spool region; a light transmission opening in the cartridge at the bridging portion, the opening being positioned such that when the cartridge is in engagement with the camera body, and with the opening open, film at the bridging portion is presented for exposure by light passing the lens and the opening in the film cartridge; a door on the film cartridge, the door is shaped to prevent light from entering through the opening into the darkroom in the cartridge; the door being selectively moveable between a closed position where the door blocks the opening in the cartridge and an open position wherein the door has been moved to open the opening in the cartridge and permit exposure of film at the bridging region in the darkroom.

125. The cartridge of claim 124, further comprising an actuator connected with the door for moving the door between the open and closed positions.

126. The cartridge of claim 125, further comprising a safety latch on the cartridge for the door, and the actuator cooperating with the safety latch for releasing the safety latch for enabling movement of the door from the closed position to the open position.
- 5 127. The cartridge of claim 126, further comprising a spring connected with the door for moving the door from the open to the closed positions upon release of the latch.
128. The cartridge of claim 124, further comprising a film or a canister for the film located at the unexposed film spool region of the cartridge, and during advancement of the film past the bridging portion, the film is transferred to the second spool region.
- 10 129. The cartridge of claim 124, further comprising a canister for the film located at the second spool region of the cartridge, such that during advancement of the film for exposure past the bridging portion, the film is transferred to the canister.
- 15 130. The cartridge of claim 124, wherein the film cartridge comprises a housing in which the film is disposed and the housing being shaped to seal the film from exposure to light except through the opening closeable by the door.
131. The cartridge of claim 130, further comprising a narrow slot between the unexposed spool region and the bridging portion through which the film can pass and the slot being narrowed to substantially seal the unexposed film spool region from light.
- 20 132. The cartridge of claim 124, further comprising the cartridge including a first part having one of the film spool regions and a second part including the other film spool region and the bridging portion; a separable latching connection between the first and second parts of the cartridge, wherein upon the cartridge parts being latched, film can pass between the spooling regions past the bridging portion, and with the parts unlatched and separable, access to the first spool is enabled.
- 25 133. The cartridge of claim 132, further comprising a film or a canister for the film disposed in the first part of the cartridge and the film is removable from the first part to be drawn past the bridging portion to the spooling
- 30

region in the second part of the cartridge.

134. The combination of claim 105, further comprising respective cooperating indexing elements on the cartridge and in the camera body positioned to be engaged as the cartridge is being installed on the camera body for positioning the cartridge at a particular location at the camera body to permit light and image to pass to the film in the cartridge.

135. A camera comprising:

a photographic film cartridge forming a dark room for accommodating a film, and

a camera body having a receptacle for removably and snugly accepting said cartridge therein,

wherein said film cartridge is provided with a sprocket for advancing said film.

136. The camera of claim 135 wherein said sprocket engages with an interlock

control provided on said camera body, and is driven by said interlock control which follows a triggering activation of a shutter of said camera.

137. The camera of claim 136 wherein said sprocket is adapted to advance one frame of said film upon each of said triggering activation.

138. The camera of claim 137 wherein said sprocket comprises a receiving means for engaging with said interlock control.

139. The camera of claim 138 wherein said receiving means is a hollow shaft with a toothed inner surface engaging with a toothed shaft of said interlock control.

140. The camera of claim 139 wherein said toothed shaft of said interlock control comprises a tapered head for facilitating insertion of said toothed shaft into said hollow shaft of said sprocket.

141. The camera of claim 136 wherein said cartridge is provided with an opening

which remains closed when said cartridge is removed from said receptacle,
and is openable for exposing said film to a light control device to form an
image on said film when said cartridge is accepted in said receptacle.

142. The camera of claim 136 wherein said camera body has a light control device
5 for communicating an image to said film, and said cartridge comprises a light
sealed housing forming said dark room but with an opening sized for
exposing only one single frame of said film and positioned for exposing said
single frame to said light control device when said cartridge is attached to said
camera body.

10 143. The camera of claim 136 wherein said cartridge is provided with an opening
and a door selectively movable between a first position to close said opening
and a second position to open said opening, and wherein said film is, upon
exposure, within a light tight container that is within said cartridge.

144. The camera of claim 136 wherein said cartridge further comprises a container
15 inside said dark room for collecting exposed films, said container being
removable from said cartridge.

145. The camera of claim 136 wherein said cartridge comprises a collection spool
for collecting exposed frames of said film, and said camera body comprises a
control means to drive said collection spool to collect said exposed frames
20 upon said triggering activation of said shutter of said camera.

146. The camera of claim 145 wherein said control means comprises a driving
shaft with a protrusion on its peripheral surface which is adapted to laterally
abut a block inside a receptacle formed on said collection spool for accepting
said driving shaft, and said driving shaft is biased toward said receptacle by a

spring.

147. A film cartridge detachably attachable to a camera body, comprising a light sealed housing forming a dark room for accommodating a film therein, further comprising a sprocket for advancing a frame of said film each time a photo is taken.

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148. The film cartridge of claim 147 wherein said sprocket comprises a hollow shaft with a toothed inner surface engageable with a toothed shaft of interlock control provided on said camera body.

149. The film cartridge of claim 148 wherein said sealed housing has an opening sized for exposing only a single frame of said film, and said film is contained in a light tight container.

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150. The film cartridge of claim 148 wherein said housing is provided with an opening which remains closed with a door when said cartridge is detached from said camera body and is openable when said cartridge is attached to said camera body.

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151. The film cartridge of claim 148 further comprises a body part comprising an unexposed spooling region and a collection region, and a cover part for engaging with said body part to form said light sealed dark room, and said body part has a hole at a bottom of said unexposed spooling region for receiving a spooling driver to spool said film in said unexposed region.

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152. The film cartridge of claim 148 further comprises a container inside said dark room for collecting exposed films, and said container is removable from said cartridge.

153. A camera comprising:

a photographic film cartridge forming a dark room for accommodating a film, a camera body having a receptacle for removably and snugly accepting said cartridge therein, and a self-lock mechanism for holding said film cartridge inside said receptacle of said camera body, said self-lock mechanism is movable between a locking position in which said cartridge is held in said receptacle, and a release position in which said cartridge is removable from said receptacle,

wherein said self-lock mechanism comprises a holder which, in said locking position, rests against a bottom surface of said cartridge to prevent said cartridge from leaving said receptacle, and in said release position, moves away from said bottom surface of said cartridge.

154. The camera of claim 153 wherein said self-lock mechanism further comprises a lock for releasable keeping said holder in said locking position.

155. The camera of claim 154 wherein said holder is an L-shaped element including an arm portion adapted to rest on said bottom surface of said cartridge, and a leg portion kept in a slot space formed in a wall of said camera body, and wherein said lock is a resilient element kept in said slot space and integrated to said leg portion at a bulb-like end.

156. The camera of claim 155 wherein said lock comprises a release end protruding from said slot space and a barb for engaging with a stop formed on said wall of said camera body.

157. The camera of claim 156 wherein said lock is inclined to bend when said release end is being pushed toward said cartridge whereby said barb is disengaged from said stop to allow said lock, and therefore said leg portion of

said holder, to move outward from said slot space.

158. The camera of claim 157 wherein said slot space is formed with a curved inner surface along which said bulb-like end of said lock moves when said lock moves outward, whereby pivoting said holder away from said cartridge.

5 159. The camera of claim 153 wherein said camera body has a cut away portion on a side wall for facilitating removal of said cartridge from said camera body when said self-lock mechanism is in said release position.

160. The camera of claim 153 further comprises a biasing spring for forcing said cartridge to move slightly away from said receptacle when said self-lock
10 mechanism is in said release position.

161. The camera of claim 158, wherein said cartridge is provided with an opening which remains closed when said cartridge is removed from said receptacle, and is openable for exposing said film to a light control device to form an image on said film when said cartridge is accepted in said receptacle.

15 162. The camera of claim 158, wherein said camera body has a light control device for communicating an image to said film, and said cartridge comprises a light sealed housing forming said dark room but with an opening sized for exposing only one single frame of said film and positioned for exposing said single frame to said light control device when said cartridge is attached to said
20 camera body.

163. The camera of claim 158 wherein said cartridge is provided with an opening and a door selectively movable between a first position to close said opening and a second position to open said opening, and wherein said film is, upon exposure, within a light tight container that is within said cartridge.

164. The camera of claim 158 wherein said cartridge further comprises a container inside said dark room for collecting exposed films, said container being removable from said cartridge.

5 165. The camera of claim 158 wherein said cartridge comprises a collection spool for collecting exposed frames of said film, and said camera body comprises a control means to drive said collection spool to collect said exposed frames upon said triggering activation of said shutter of said camera.